

The minutes reflect the impressions of the writer, of the discussions and proposals and are not intended to imply or announce policy or directives. Refer to the specifications to determine MDT requirements.

November 1, 2006  
MCA-MDT Technical Committee Meeting

Glen Frost opened the meeting with introductions.

**MDT NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Mark Wissinger – Summary/Overview.** Mark presented a summary of work performed over the past five years. He pointed out the tremendous economic stimulus to the economy and the safety advances that have been made. He thanked MCA for the high quality of work performed. MCA thanked Mark for his years of service and dedication as a “principled, fair, honest, and reasonable” Construction Engineer.

**2. Summary of Specification Revisions.** MDT sent out 10 proposed supplemental specifications for review and comment and two errata changes. There was no discussion on the proposed changes. MCA was reminded to submit written comments by November 30, 2006 to [mdtspecifications@mt.gov](mailto:mdtspecifications@mt.gov).

**Current Specifications out for Comment**

101.01	General (Dual Units, Submittals in the Proper Units)
106.05	Field Laboratory (Addition of 220 Volts)
109.11	Fuel Price Adjustment (Platts Oilgram)
208.03.6	Inspections (BMP's – SWPPP)
401.03.10	Spreading and Finishing (Maximum Lift Thickness Deletion)
401.03.11	Constructing Joints (Longitudinal Joint Locations)
409.03.7	Application of Seal Coat Materials (Longitudinal Joint Locations)
551.03.7	Flowable Fill (Steel Plate Covers for Early Opening to Traffic)
603.03.4	Backfilling (Imperfect Trench Method Deletion)
623.02	Materials (Mailboxes)

**Errata Changes have been made to the following specifications:**

104.02.3	Significant Changes in the Character of the Work
108.01.2	Contract Performance (Special Fuel Permit)

**Tentative December Distribution**

105.15.1	Partial Inspection (Substantial Completion)
109.02	Scope of Payment (Rounding)
109.04.1	Unit Price or Lump Sum Basis (Force Account)
620	Pavement Markings (No grind on new chip seal, 3-day grind on existing, glass beads, curb – epoxy w/beads, method of measurement)

**NEW BUSINESS FROM MCA**

**1. Asphalt Adjustment.** MCA stated that they appreciated the attempt by MDT to solve the problem of rapidly fluctuating asphalt prices, but wanted to revisit the special provision. MCA proposed making the adjustment optional (like the fuel price adjustment), lowering the 180 day trigger, not using Poten and Partners for the base price, and raising the \$150,000 cap. MDT stated the special provision is not optional but all other suggestions will be considered.

The minutes reflect the impressions of the writer, of the discussions and proposals and are not intended to imply or announce policy or directives. Refer to the specifications to determine MDT requirements.

**2. Traffic Control Overruns.** MCA asked if the provision that reduces the bid price to \$0.80 for quantities in excess of 115 percent of plan quantity could be dropped and use 104.02.3 for adjustments. MDT is currently looking at this issue and expects to make this change.

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. MSE Walls.** MDT is looking at specifying the backfill in the plans whenever possible.

**2. Sulfate Soundness.** The report from MSU is late and should be received by the middle of November. MDT hopes to have some information for the next meeting.

**3. 2007 Engineering Conference.** MDT reminded MCA to submit any requests for classes (that they want to see or present) for the conference in February. The agenda needs to be finalized soon. The conference will be open to Contractors and Consultants two days, Wednesday and Thursday February 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Kris Christensen is the contact for the conference, 444-7286 [krchristensen@mt.gov](mailto:krchristensen@mt.gov). MCA stated that a safety seminar will be held in Great Falls on Friday February 9<sup>th</sup> and will be open to state personnel. Invitations with more details will be sent out.

**4. Box Beam Guardrail.** MDT is currently reviewing the projects that have had box beam guardrail installations. These projects will be inspected for proper installation and a course of action determined for any repairs necessary. Wyoming has been contacted and reports no problems with the expansion joints. The detailed drawings will be updated to show a range for the space, possibly temperature related.

**5. RAP Volumetrics.** MDT is working on a RAP volumetric specification and requested a couple of MCA volunteers for a working group. Send the names to Matt Strizich.

**6. MDT Internet Help Guide.** MDT provided a handout for locating Contractor related information on the MDT Internet at last months meeting. MDT will present a demonstration in the MDT auditorium after the November 2<sup>nd</sup> letting for anyone interested.

**7. Buy America.** MCA has concerns with the 5-day requirement and MDT agreed to look into this. MCA suggested a letter from the AGC to the steel suppliers may be helpful.

**8. Striping Layout.** MDT prefers to have their forces layout the pavement markings as requested by MCA. MDT will look into the use of the Traffic special provision and a supplemental specification to clarify this responsibility.

**9. Contract Time.** MCA asked if 108.07.3, stating that all days in the winter will be chargeable for contract time, has been corrected. MDT stated that a supplemental specification was effective September 1<sup>st</sup> that clarified time will be charged for days worked from November 16<sup>th</sup> through April 15<sup>th</sup> "that have an impact on the traveling public." MDT stated the intent is not for permanent signs during winter shutdown on a well maintained road open to traffic. The intent is for Contractor operations that occur "that day" that require traffic control with lowered speeds, detours, etc.

*The next meeting will be December 6, 2006, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the MCA Office.*